

Passeres is by no means justified by facts. The pterylography, osteology, and myology of the *Eurylæmidæ* all tended to shew that the nearest allies of these birds were the *Cotingidæ*. Although undoubtedly primitive, the group, Mr. Pycraft pointed out, presented a number of specialised characters, which were especially marked in the skull and in the muscles of the wing.

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*Birds of the Tibetan Expedition.*—Capt. H. J. Walton, of the Indian Medical Service, who, as we stated (see above, p. 293), accompanied the expedition to Lhasa as Naturalist, has arrived in London, and is engaged in working out his collections at the Natural History Museum. He has brought from the district round the Tibetan capital a good series of birds, some 500 in number, referable to, perhaps, 120 species, amongst which are some interesting novelties. We are pleased to be able to state that Capt. Walton is engaged in preparing a memoir on this interesting collection for publication in this Journal.

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*The Fourth International Ornithological Congress.*—The Fourth International Ornithological Congress (see above, pp. 144, 292) commenced its sittings at South Kensington on June 12th and continued them to the end of the week. We hope to be able to give an account of its proceedings in our next number.

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*Retrospective Priority in Nomenclature.*—In his Presidential Address to the Geologists' Association (Proc. Geol. Assoc. xix. p. 70) Dr. A. Smith Woodward has boldly stated his opinion that "since the fatuous fad of retrospective priority became fashionable the naming of certain groups has lapsed into inextricable confusion, and that until common sense methods prevailed a serious obstacle was thus opposed to real scientific work."